National rural health mission

†*16. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of villages where the National Rural Health Mission scheme has been implemented alongwith the date of its enforcement;

(b) the number of villages where female Accredited Social Health Activist have been appointed;

(c) the special measures taken by Government to ensure the presence of doctors on duty in village hospitals and the availability of medicines to women; and

(d) the arrangements made by Government for the monitoring of the National Rural Health Mission?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) is a strategy to bring about architectural correction in the public health sector for the entire country with special focus on the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim. NRHM is being implemented in all the States as a whole and is especially to address the unmet need of health services for the rural poor. The Mission was launched in the entire country on 12th April, 2005 and was effective in all the states from that date itself.

(b) Under the strategy of NRHM, 2.5 lakh trained female Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) at village level are proposed to be engaged in ten states by involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in a phased manner over four years. During 2005-06 funds have been released for selection and training of one lakh ASHAs in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Orissa,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir and Assam. The process of selection and training of ASHAs in these states are in progress.

(c) The provision of services in the Community Health Centres is envisaged to be upgraded to the levels of Indian Public Health Standards. The IPHS provide for posting of adequate number of doctors including specialist in the CHCs. The manpower planning for this purpose is a core activity in the process of upgradation of the CHCs to the IPHS. Further, the role of the community organisations in monitoring the performance of doctors in the village hospitals is envisaged to be institutionalized with the Rogi Kalyan Samitis which would increase the accountability in the work of the medical staff posted at the hospital. A Task Force has been constituted to examine the feasibility of short term courses in medicine for creating a cadre of Health Professionals for rendering basic primary Health care and suggest various schemes which would increase the availability of doctors in the rural areas. The availability of medicines in the Subcentres, PHCs and CHCs is also being augmented as part of upgradation of the services in the various primary health facilities in the country. Additional drugs including AYUSH medicines are being made available at all the centres. A basic drug kits is also being made available to the trained Accredited Social Health Activist.

(d) The NRHM is an umbrella programme of the Ministry which subsumes the existing initiatives of the health sector and also seeks to introduce intersectoral convergence across other departments of the Government. The existing programmes and schemes of the Ministry like the RCH II, Vertical Disease Control Programmes, Routine Immunisation etc. are incorporated within the Mission. The existing evaluation and monitoring protocols of these schemes are being rationalised into a single MIS which will be used to monitor the NRHM. The first year is the preparatory phase of the Mission during which the institutions of the Mission are being put into place. The monitoring of progress in this regard is being done through periodic reviews and orientation workshops in which the concerned officers of the State Government are invited for discussion and follow up. The detailed MIS for the Mission is meanwhile being prepared.